

REMARKS

In the final Office Action, the Examiner rejects claims 1-3, 6-11, 13-15, 19, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over LEA (U.S. Patent No. 6,115,373) in view of DOSHI et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,936,965); allows claims 16 and 18; and objects to claims 5, 12, and 17 as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication that claims 16 and 18 are allowable over the art of record and claims 5, 12, and 17 are allowable if rewritten in independent form. By way of the present Amendment, Applicant cancels claims 5, 12, and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer and incorporates the features recited in these claims into independent claims 1, 11, and 14 from which these claims depend. Accordingly, claims 1, 11, and 14 are in condition for allowance. Since claims 2, 3, 6, 7, 13, 15, 19, and 20 depend from claims 1, 11, and 14, these claims are patentable over the art of record for at least the reasons that claims 1, 11, and 14 are allowable.

Applicant further cancels claims 8-10 without prejudice or disclaimer and amends claim 20 to improve form. Therefore, claims 1-3, 6, 7, 11, 13-16, and 18-20 are in condition for immediate allowance.

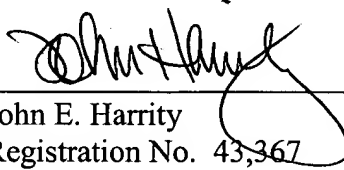
In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner's reconsideration of this application, and the timely allowance of the pending claims. Applicant requests that the Examiner enter the present amendment because the amendment places the application in condition for immediate allowance.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1070 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectively submitted,

HARRITY & SNYDER, L.L.P.

By: _____


John E. Harrity
Registration No. 43,367

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11240 Waples Mill Road
Suite 300
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
(571) 432-0800